

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03

PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00

RSC-01 NSC-05 BIB-01 /088 R

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PM/DIA:VBAKER
NSC:SHADLEY
OSD:LMICHAEL
JCS:WWOOD
S/S :REWOODS

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P R 070053Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USMISSION GENEVA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 028114

E.O. 11652:
TAGS:PARM, NATO
SUBJECT:MBFR: NETHERLANDS POSITION ON DATA

GENEVA PASS TO KLEIN

REF: A. US NATO 536
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B. MBFR V 26

1. YOU SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE RECENT NETHERLANDS INITIATIVE ON MBFR DATA (REF A).

A. WE APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT PROVOKING PAPER PRESENTED BY THE NETHERLANDS REPRESENTATIVE ON 30 JANUARY.

B. WHILE THE ISSUE OF WHETHER AN EXCHANGE OF DATA IN MBFR IS ESSENTIAL TO ALLIED AIMS DESERVES FURTHER ANALYSIS, WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO CONSIDER AT THIS TIME CHANGES TO THE ALLIANCE APPROACH TO MBFR STEMMING FROM DATA ISSUES.

PRESSING THE EAST FOR AN EXCHANGE OF DATA HAS NOT BEEN MADE A FORMAL PRECONDITION FOR AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS, AND HAS NOT YET PROVEN TO BE A BAR TO NEGOTIATIONS. SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED THAT THEY WOULD

"DISCUSS" DATA AFTER AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON REDUCTIONS IS REACHED.

D. ANY ACTIVE DISCUSSION OF DATA WITH THE EAST WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS. AS APPROPRIATE, WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR SUCH AN EXCHANGE UNTIL AN ACTUAL ROADBLOCK TO FURTHER NEGOTIATION BECOMES APPARENT.

E. THE ALLIES WILL AT SOME POINT HAVE TO AGREE AMONG THEMSELVES ON WHAT FIGURES IF ANY IT IS ESSENTIAL TO HAVE AGREEMENT AND ON WHICH FIGURES IF ANY SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN THE TEXT OF AN AGREEMENT.

F. HOWEVER, ALLIED DECISIONS AS TO WHAT DEGREE OF AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST ON DATA IS ESSENTIAL SHOULD BE BASED ON A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING THAN IS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE SHAPE OF A FIRST PHASE REDUCTION AGREEMENT.

2. THUS, ANY TASKING OF THE MBFR WORKING GROUP SHOULD GO TO THE LARGER QUESTION IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH E ABOVE, RATHER THAN CONSIDERING THE RESTRICTIVE ALTERNATIVES SUGGESTED IN THE NETHERLANDS PAPER. YOU SHOULD SEEK TO
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HAVE THE TASKING STATEMENT CHARGE THE WG WITH PROVIDING AN ASSESSMENT OF WHAT FIGURES IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HAVE AGREEMENT ON. THE TASK SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO A LOW PRIORITY SO AS NOT TO UPSET THE PRESENT WORKING GROUP PROGRAM AND TO ALLOW TIME FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALLIANCE POSITION BEFORE THE DATA QUESTION IS AGAIN TAKEN UP IN THE SPC. KISSINGER

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